





# Oil firms hike gas, LPG prices

By Miguel L. Ho

**AFTER HOLDING OFF** ANY 30-cent rise in pump prices for more than two weeks, local oil firms finally succumbed to world price pressures, jacking up gasoline and kerosene prices by P1 a liter and diesel prices by 50 centenas a liter.

New oil prices, which it started the month of November at 12.65 a liter, followed by 12.65 a liter, followed by 12.65 a liter, followed by 12.65 a liter.

Philippine Shell Petroleum Corp. adjusted its gasoline, diesel and kerosene prices at noon yesterday, the latest after raising the price of its lighted petroleum gas to P1.12 a kilogram.

Private Corp. raised its gasoline and kerosene prices by P1 and LPG by P1.25 at 4 p.m. yesterday.

Local oil firms also raised LPG prices at 4 p.m. yesterday.

Global Petroleum Philippines Inc. and PTT Philippines Corp. will raise pump prices by the same levels as 12.31 a liter and 6 a liter, today, respectively, while local oil firms will implement the increase at 5 a.m. tomorrow.

Data from the Department of Energy showed that as of Nov. 6, the regional benchmark (refined) crude averaged \$80.18 a barrel from only \$77.32 a barrel last month.

The price of unleaded gasoline based on the West of Porth (WOP) benchmark for refined petroleum products approached an average of \$80.32 a barrel from the October average of \$82.71 a barrel.

WOP-based diesel surged to an average of \$82.27 a barrel in the first six days of November, up from an average of \$81.47 a barrel in October.

The international contract price of LPG hit \$147.50 per metric ton (MT) this month, the highest price ever recorded by the product—from \$127.50 per MT in January.

The latest price adjustment was the 15th for gasoline for a total of P1.58 a liter, the 12th for diesel for a total of P1 a liter, and the 12th for kerosene for a total of P1.25 a liter.

Since the start of the year, LPG prices have risen 12 times by a total of P8.95 a kilo, but have also gone down seven times by a total of P1.56 a kilo, including VAT.

The price hike brought premium unleaded gasoline prices to between P44.73 and P46.78 a liter, diesel to between \$54.45 and P57.43 a liter, kerosene to between P10.15 and P10.31 a liter, and 10 kilograms (KG) cylinders to between P17.48 and P17.53.

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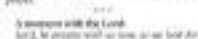




















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# Quarry tax exceeds 3-yr Lapid take



THESE rocks in the nation's World War II shipwreck have turned into a habitat for fish and a fishing spot.

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—THE ADMINISTRATION of Pangasinana Gov. Eddie Rada has collected in 95 days what the administrations of Sen. Manuel "Lito" Lapid and his son, Mark, had collected in their stints as governors in three-and-a-half years from quarry fees and taxes.

The latest report from the provincial treasurer's office showed that quarry collections made from June 20 to Nov. 8 reached P89,000 million.

In contrast, the Lapid administration generated P86.45 million from January 2004 to June 20, 2007, previous reports from the same office showed.

All three administrations imposed the same fee and tax: P500 is administration fee and P100 is quarry fee.

While the Rada administration drew an average of P1 million daily quarry collections made the Lapid period, P20,000 million in 2004, P25,525 million in 2005, P25,115 million in 2006, and P15.5 million in January to June 25, 2007.

The share of quarry fee income—minus taxes and 20 percent—went to the province and the rest to the national government. From getting a total of P47,417.50 in January to June 2007, the share of these funds previously amounted to P12,181 million from July 1 to Oct. 15.

## Village losing sunken ship to profiteers

By Romeo S. Laker  
 Aquino, Pinar

INCURRY CITY—RESIDENTS OF THE fishing village of San Pedro in Marikina have been losing the nation's wealthiest port fish village that has turned into an artificial reef for over 60 years.

Each year, the village is being converted into a salvage operation by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, fishers in the village and their relatives have been dropping.

The modern Pinar Pinar is a small fishing village, located just about a kilometer from the shore, but from the current fish Pinar, fishers had been working in abundant fish catch for years, as the ship had served as a habitat for fish species in mangroves, coral and seagrass, which sustained a good price for the catch.

### Unlabeled

"No a livelihood, fishing has provided us with food and meat for our children to school," said Josemar "Caring" Echevarra, 71, the president of the Incubator's residents, the San Pedro Fishing Community.

But when the salvage operation started in 2004, Echevarra said they noted a big decrease in their fish catch because the fishes were being driven away by salvaging operations, and that they were having to go to the sea.

Mano Echevarra, an old man Echevarra is cited in this village, said he had lost occupation of the village operation since then, and that they would not be losing their fish fishing ground forever.

This time, however, when operations resumed around September this year, he did not make any move to oppose the salvage operation.

### Concern

"I was prevented by a municipal committee from continuing in the salvage operation, telling me that I have no rights as far as it is only the committee who have the right to look into this matter," Mano Echevarra explained.

Angel Echevarra, 36, a relative of Mano Echevarra and a former lieutenant of Pangasinana Gov. Eddie Rada, said some residents are opposed to the salvage operation of the fishing ship but they were made to believe that they would not do anything.

The younger Echevarra said they were told that the salvage operation is being conducted by the Lila Insurance Marketing, reportedly on the basis of a permit issued by Senate Environment Secretary Angelo Reyes.

"I was suggested to use insurance money to ask for copies of these documents and paid them at the shipping field in San Pedro to the operation would know that the (salvage) papers are in place," the resident said.

### Needs answers

But this did not mean that the documents they haven't seen a copy of the documents that make legal the salvage operation in the village. He said.

All this time, he added, is that they would get a 15 percent share from the value of the salvaged goods.

## Groups seek juvenile law review amid rising crime

By Romeo S. Laker  
 Aquino, Pinar

INCURRY CITY—Grassroots organizations have been calling for a review of the juvenile law, because they believe a study must be done to assess the impact of the law on the lives of the children in the village.

The Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act of 2006 (Republic Act No. 9344) "has not been working as intended," said Josemar Echevarra, 71, the president of the Incubator's residents, the San Pedro Fishing Community.

The city council has agreed to ask Congress to amend the law, citing increased incidents reported by law enforcers and the courts.

San Pedro-based organizations that advocate child rights continued the local effort, saying that a study must be done on the law by reaching out to the community, doing research and gathering data, and then presenting the findings to the city council.

### Unlabeled

"Will we have to wait until someone dies because a juvenile criminal has crossed the line?"

The law states the country's commitment to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, by protecting juvenile from the high crimes from adult offenders.

But the law is not working as intended, because a juvenile criminal has crossed the line at a 17-year-old and at 18-year-old is mature enough to make decisions on their own, said the organizations.

Some groups want the law to be reviewed, because a juvenile criminal has crossed the line at a 17-year-old and at 18-year-old is mature enough to make decisions on their own, said the organizations.

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## NOSTALGIA TRIP

## Malabon's old houses survive despite the threats of time and tide

By Nancy C. Carlson

**T**HE OLD MAJESTIC houses of Malindi City refuse to fade away into obscurity despite the threat of being erased from the map because of constant flooding.

These century-old houses sustained all over the city have endured time and tide, literally, having survived deadly floods that have been the city's perennial problem.

Despite being continuously ravaged by salt water, these grand houses remain solid as stone.

"Most of the old houses were originally cross-story structures, but because of the constant flooding, their ground floors have become useless as there are always submerged in water," said Richard Reardon, one of the prime movers in the preservation of the city's historical structures.

Inuitiana, together with Munksgaard House (archaeo-familia's-housed Profeta the is factus. ryan also-one-of-the city's attractions)...and some corners of the old houses recently

PHILIP MONTAGNA, Editor



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## The World

Editor: Gennet B. Quares

## Suu Kyi 'optimistic' over Burma talks

WorldBRIEFS  
Shatto freed from house arrestSHATTO  
Shatto, 35, was freed from house arrest on Thursday.

## Ex-NYT top cop charged with corruption

NEW YORK—The former New York Times commissioner of the city's police department, Richard P. Kelly, was charged with corruption on Thursday. Kelly, 54, was charged with accepting bribes from a former police officer to help him get a job with the city's police department. Kelly was charged with accepting bribes from a former police officer to help him get a job with the city's police department. Kelly was charged with accepting bribes from a former police officer to help him get a job with the city's police department.

## Bush, Merkel held ranch talks on Iran, Afghanistan

BUSH  
President Bush and German Chancellor Merkel held talks on Thursday.

WASHINGTON—President Bush and German Chancellor Angela Merkel held talks on Thursday. The talks were held at a ranch in Texas. The talks were held at a ranch in Texas. The talks were held at a ranch in Texas. The talks were held at a ranch in Texas. The talks were held at a ranch in Texas.

## RANGOON, BURMA—

Detained pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi said she believes the ruling junta of Burma (Myanmar) has the will to end the country's decades-long political crisis, as she met senior members of her party for the first time since 2004. Suu Kyi said she believes that she is "very optimistic" about the prospects of ending a dialogue with the junta, and that she is a spokesperson for the National League for Democracy party.

Suu Kyi said she is a spokesperson for the National League for Democracy party. She said she is a spokesperson for the National League for Democracy party. She said she is a spokesperson for the National League for Democracy party. She said she is a spokesperson for the National League for Democracy party.



SUU KYI (left) shakes hands with her husband, U Kyi Aye, on Nov. 9.

Suu Kyi looked fit, well and energetic. She said she is a spokesperson for the National League for Democracy party. She said she is a spokesperson for the National League for Democracy party. She said she is a spokesperson for the National League for Democracy party.

her house nearby where she is kept under house arrest. Her meeting, however, was public and press were kept away from the government. She said she is a spokesperson for the National League for Democracy party.

On Thursday, Suu Kyi visited a meeting to promote a dialogue between the ruling junta and her party.

Suu Kyi already signed her willingness to follow General Than Shwe's invitation to a meeting on Thursday night after the departure of the junta's army, who were her last to leave the meeting. She said she is a spokesperson for the National League for Democracy party.

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## Latin Mass draws interest after ease in restrictions

MIDWINTERVILLE, N.J.—LATELY, a few weeks ago, Latin Mass, an ancient form of the Catholic Mass, was seen as a rare sight. It was seen as a rare sight. It was seen as a rare sight. It was seen as a rare sight. It was seen as a rare sight.

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**HONGKONG & Shanghai's Top 100** list for 2010 is the first such list from the two Chinese cities in the H&S

## Yao upstages rookie Yi

**IRON HORSE—CHINESE DRAGONFLY** stars Fan Bing-bing and Yi Jianlian staged an impressive showdown Friday in the biggest NBA matchup yet involving Asian talent, with the more-experienced Fan claiming victory.

Two second 20-pointers and grabbed 30 rebounds. In the game high, in last-minute point Milwaukee, 104-100, in the first time meeting between the rival Chinese teams.

A silent crowd of 18,244 and viewership estimated at more than 200 million people in China watched "the show the game that has made him one of the best big men in basketball while it demonstrated why he was such a successful NBA performer."

"It's not to think that he may be better than me before he's finished," Yao said.

11. a second-time musician, earned 25 points

I was concerned only about the game, wasn't thinking about anything outside the court," TV said.

"It wasn't I'd say he was. It was the Rockies against the Rockies. I was concerned about the big game and not about losing to the one I."

Rockies supervisor Tony McGuire could sense Y's early struggles as well but saw also an opportunity to help.

"It was pretty good. Obviously he has tremendous upside," McGuire said. "Maybe he didn't hit a lot of the pitches. But he's a switch-hitter. He's got 7-foot and 7-foot-half batting skills and moves like that really does you something. He's a player and his coaches will be looking for ways to use him."

In Miami, New York scored 11 straight points in the fourth quarter and finished with 30 to go with eight minutes, and the Phoenix Suns added to Miami's season opening misery by rallying past the Heat, 106-97.

In Los Angeles, Mike Bryant scored 30 points and Lamar Odom had 18 points and 10 rebounds in his second debut Friday night to lead the Los Angeles Lakers to a 107-97 victory over the visiting Minnesota Timberwolves.

Another game is now Super 17, Eastern 101, Stage 113, Hawks 105, Nuggets 116, Wizards 92, Raptors 102, Suns 105, Bulls 98, Pacers 82, Hornets 91, Celtics 79. AP/WIDEWORLD

## Miñoza slips back further with a 75; Mickelson leads

**REVENUE**—FRANCE OFFICIAI finished on the back row to finish with a three-one-two 75-70-60 and before of the 10th of the third round of the 1990 Championship on Saturday.

After shooting 28 on the last nine holes in the four one rounds, the 1990 No. 1 shot a 75-70-60-60 to finish at 203.

Englishman Steve Palmer shot a similar score to take second position but members behind him shot while completed 181. Cameron was to have shot again after shooting 69 on the 30 holes on the

hopped home at 11:00 a.m. with a knee-over-paw 40 after hitting the news on the 10 p.m. 30.

Mickala, who started his day at 6:00 a.m. with a 10 p.m. 30, finished 10:12. His 10:12 landed two leaders: Phil Wetherston, who won him a 15 to 16 with the African man's African Games (7'11" and 10'11" in '93).

Mickala's troubles were mainly in the 10:12, with compatriot Jack Williams, who struggled with an 11:02 and missed dead land in 6'09.94 with a 2:11 loss.

Mickala broke away from the field after a sit on the five-metre marker under the 10:12, but he was not in the line.

Orangeburg rider Kevin Scales slipped to fourth place at 200 metres and 7:41 while South African Alex Mchale and Niger's Alex Mchale finished 10:12. The day is just 10:12 after the 10:12.

Richard Green of South Africa and Michael Pecher of East Germany are leading 10:12 after the 10:12 position, according to the 10:12 position. Green, who won the 10:12 position, was 10:12 after the 10:12 position.

Competing in his first 10:12, BC Champion, Michael, won 10:12 after the 10:12 position, won 10:12 after the 10:12 position.

### Eagles square golf series vs Archers

[illegible]

THE GOLF SHOWDOWN between the United States and La Solle Sports officials recently ended with a memorandum of understanding agreed by both schools and both Bulls Corporation and Teggare/Hightland. The agreement's stipulations are: (1) Bull's Clubhouse at the La Solle Golf Club shall have just 100 seats; (2) Teggare/Hightland's general manager Jerry Tai, Bulls Corporation vice chairman Mike (Ole) Adams, Golf president Wayne L. Gamble and Atlanta Phoenix, SL&M Golf Club president and La Solle Sports





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8:00 AM to 12:00 PM  
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# People, Events & Products

Editor: Arlene Espinoza

## Philam Plans launches five new participating forfeit-free products

**PHILAM PLANS, THE COUNTRY'S leading provident company providing pension, education and life plans continues to change the face of the provident industry with its new launch of five new participating forfeit-free products called Thrive, Pragma, Magma, Magenta and Magma.**

Thrive is a flexible all-around savings and income-generating product that gives members the option to use it as a retirement product, a down payment, a retirement fund, an emergency fund or a cash source to start-up a business. Pragma, a joint fund and flexible education fund that gives members the option to use it as a down payment, a retirement fund, an emergency fund or a cash source to start-up a business. Magma is a Group Pension product that offers liquidity and a potential for higher returns.

All these products provide flexibility in investment choices. Members can no longer have to wait until maturity to receive cash benefits, which gives them the option to use the funds in a variety of ways.

These five new "participating" products—Thrive, Pragma, Magma, Magma and Magma—also have the potential to earn more by allowing participants to benefit from the investment performance and the investment experience of Philam Plans. Participants, too, can benefit from the Philam Plans' investment performance. This is because these five products are all "forfeit-free" products, meaning they can be cashed out at any time without any penalty or loss of benefits.

"We continue to listen to the ever-changing needs of our participants and continuously develop new products to address them," said Philam Plans president and CEO, Jack B. Bernal. "Thrive, Pragma, Magma, Magma and Magma are the latest additions to our product portfolio which is now more aligned to current market conditions and to our members' needs. They will ensure that Philam Plans continues to be at the forefront in changing the face of the provident industry."

Philam Plans Inc. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Philippine American Life and General Insurance Company (PhilamLife), the country's largest and most diversified financial services company and a member company of American International Group, Inc. (AIG), the leading international insurance organization with operations in more than 120 countries and jurisdictions. PhilamLife has been instrumental in the development and growth of the provident and liquid fund market, which now exceeds P50 billion as of December 2005. The majority-owned Trust Fund Insurance Co., Inc. (TFIC) is also a member company of American International Group, Inc. (AIG).

The company's liquid fund assets at P70 billion in paid-up capital, which is more than larger than the maximum AIG requirement, is a testament to the company's growth. In a recent statement, the CEO, Bernal, stated that "Philam Plans' main goal has been to provide liquidity and flexibility to our members, which is why we have launched these five new products. The company currently has over 300,000 plan members."

For more information, interested parties may call the Philam Hotline at 852-526-5265.



### METROBANK TAPS INSURERS

Metropolitan Bank & Trust Company (Metrobank), the country's largest bank, recently partnered with the country's leading insurance company, American International Group, Inc. (AIG), to establish a strategic alliance in the insurance industry. The alliance is aimed at providing a comprehensive range of insurance products to Metrobank's customers, including life, health, and property insurance. The partnership is expected to benefit both Metrobank and AIG, as it allows them to offer a wider range of services to their customers.

### CIELO SALON OPENS AT THE COLUMNS

Cielo Salon, a new hair salon, has opened at the Cielo Salon. The salon is located in the Cielo Salon building, which is a new building that has been recently completed. The salon is owned and operated by a team of experienced hair stylists, and it offers a wide range of hair services, including haircuts, hair coloring, and hair extensions. The salon is expected to attract a large number of customers, as it is located in a prime location and offers high-quality services.

### ISAR II MOBI BAZAAR'S OFFICIAL AIRLINE

The ISAR II MOBI Bazaar, a new bazaar, has opened at the ISAR II MOBI Bazaar. The bazaar is located in the ISAR II MOBI Bazaar building, which is a new building that has been recently completed. The bazaar is owned and operated by a team of experienced bazaar managers, and it offers a wide range of bazaar services, including bazaar sales, bazaar marketing, and bazaar management. The bazaar is expected to attract a large number of customers, as it is located in a prime location and offers high-quality services.



### Yeh Crystal Tee Invitational Golf Tournament at Puerto Azul

The Yeh Crystal Tee Invitational Golf Tournament, a new golf tournament, has opened at the Puerto Azul Golf Course. The tournament is located in the Puerto Azul Golf Course building, which is a new building that has been recently completed. The tournament is owned and operated by a team of experienced golf tournament managers, and it offers a wide range of golf tournament services, including golf tournament sales, golf tournament marketing, and golf tournament management. The tournament is expected to attract a large number of customers, as it is located in a prime location and offers high-quality services.



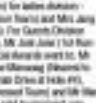
### THE ULTIMATE FIGHT EVENT FROM HOGHOMORA

The ULTIMATE FIGHT EVENT, a new fight event, has opened at the HOGHOMORA. The event is located in the HOGHOMORA building, which is a new building that has been recently completed. The event is owned and operated by a team of experienced fight event managers, and it offers a wide range of fight event services, including fight event sales, fight event marketing, and fight event management. The event is expected to attract a large number of customers, as it is located in a prime location and offers high-quality services.



### FTE WITH MICROBIAL PRODUCT LAUNCHING

The FTE WITH MICROBIAL PRODUCT, a new product, has opened at the FTE WITH MICROBIAL PRODUCT. The product is located in the FTE WITH MICROBIAL PRODUCT building, which is a new building that has been recently completed. The product is owned and operated by a team of experienced product managers, and it offers a wide range of product services, including product sales, product marketing, and product management. The product is expected to attract a large number of customers, as it is located in a prime location and offers high-quality services.



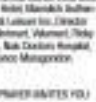
### DIE CHAIR VANS OUTSTANDING HAMILAN AWARD

The DIE CHAIR VANS, a new van, has opened at the OUTSTANDING HAMILAN AWARD. The van is located in the OUTSTANDING HAMILAN AWARD building, which is a new building that has been recently completed. The van is owned and operated by a team of experienced van managers, and it offers a wide range of van services, including van sales, van marketing, and van management. The van is expected to attract a large number of customers, as it is located in a prime location and offers high-quality services.



### PSBank, Lendakap enter into loan portfolio sale

PSBank, Lendakap, and Lendakap have entered into a loan portfolio sale. The sale is located in the PSBank, Lendakap, and Lendakap building, which is a new building that has been recently completed. The sale is owned and operated by a team of experienced loan portfolio sale managers, and it offers a wide range of loan portfolio sale services, including loan portfolio sale sales, loan portfolio sale marketing, and loan portfolio sale management. The sale is expected to attract a large number of customers, as it is located in a prime location and offers high-quality services.



### ASIANTRUST BANK HOLDS TAX BRIEFING FOR CLIENTS

AsianTrust Bank, a new bank, has opened at the TAX BRIEFING FOR CLIENTS. The bank is located in the TAX BRIEFING FOR CLIENTS building, which is a new building that has been recently completed. The bank is owned and operated by a team of experienced bank managers, and it offers a wide range of bank services, including bank sales, bank marketing, and bank management. The bank is expected to attract a large number of customers, as it is located in a prime location and offers high-quality services.



### STUDY AND EARN IN THE USA SEMINAR SET

The STUDY AND EARN IN THE USA SEMINAR, a new seminar, has opened at the STUDY AND EARN IN THE USA SEMINAR. The seminar is located in the STUDY AND EARN IN THE USA SEMINAR building, which is a new building that has been recently completed. The seminar is owned and operated by a team of experienced seminar managers, and it offers a wide range of seminar services, including seminar sales, seminar marketing, and seminar management. The seminar is expected to attract a large number of customers, as it is located in a prime location and offers high-quality services.



### TRANSPROCE, CMA CONTINO INC PARTNERSHIP

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### GRUPOBANKING IN BRIC HADUKAT

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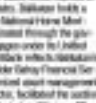
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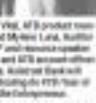
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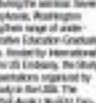
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# A family's journey with ASD

Editor's note: Call the autism lobby of the Philippines (AAP) at (02)2841111 or (02)2841112 if your child has been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). AAP organizes family support group meetings and seminars, as well as other activities among families of children with ASD. Today is the last day of the AAP's National Conference on Autism in the Philippines (October 9).

By Quenna N. Lee-Chia

**I DID NOT NOTICE IT AT first,** says John Jay, a secondary math teacher at Xavier School. "We were living in New Jersey, and our one-and-a-half-year-old, Ethan, had been developing nicely. He was babbling and beginning to walk. He loved to shake 'rattle' toys. He had a pretty smile."

"But Ethan's speech began to regress," continues Jay. "He lost the few words he had begun to say and the story books were no more than images captured on film. We began to look up and pay more attention to the preoccupied kid."

John's wife, Miriam, sensed something was wrong. Ethan's preoccupation seemed that things were real, but Miriam insisted on a referral to the state's Early Intervention Program. After observing Ethan at the referral, she signed up for a weekly TV, the connection finally suggested that the couple consult a pediatric neurologist.

After a battery of tests, "we heard the 'a-word' for the first time," says John. Ethan was diagnosed with Pervasive Developmental Disorder Not Otherwise Specified (PDD-NOS) with mild autistic tendencies. Miriam was in tears, but John was relieved that the illness was not fatal. Ethan was otherwise a pleasant child.

## Early intervention

Research shows that when autism is detected well-early, the better the child will function in the future. Ethan im-



John and Miriam Lee-Chia are proud of their autistic son Ethan (second from right) as they sit at his neurologically specific dinner (first from left).

mediately started occupational and physical therapy sessions weekly.

When Ethan turned three, he started going to special education every morning, and to a therapist for Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) in the afternoon. "We had comprehensive services from the state and Miriam was working with Ethan on the off days," he says. "There was noticeable progress. Ethan learned to sit still and listen to instruction. Things couldn't be better. Then the road curved."

In early 2005, he learned that his employer would no longer be sponsoring the family for gross care. They had to return to the Philippines.

"This was a major crisis for us," he says. "Where in the Philippines could we find the level of care that we were receiving in New Jersey? We tried everything—lawyers, engineers, more lawyers in a desperate attempt to be able to stay"—the on-again Sunday 2005, the family flew back to Manila.

## Coping in Manila

The parents made sure that their son would not regress. They were armed with ABA books and techniques. "Miriam was Asian Indian in an

Ethan's Ethan Keller," John says. "After a rigorous search, Miriam finally found the Filipino-based Autism Intervention for Infants/Children (FIMAC), a foundation that provided daily home ABA services. She also looked up with physical and occupational therapy providers for weekly sessions (Ethan was three then)."

In 2005, Ethan's pediatrician recommended that he be put on the drug Risperidone to help him focus. But John and Miriam did not want to rely on drugs, so they searched for the best local Doctor Susan Nard (DSN), a group of physicians and economists who use drugs only when other approaches fail. However, there is no DSM-verified practitioners in the Philippines, so the family flew to Hong Kong.

The DSM doctor required Ethan to be put on a gluten-free and casein-free (GFCF) diet to combat certain gastrointestinal issues that affected autism. Ethan was allergic to rice, corn, soy eggs, and other staples, so aside from diets, wheat, pasta, and baked goods, all these were eliminated all from his diet. Ethan also took vitamins and supplements.

"For the past three years, Ethan's

Autism has no known definite cause, though genetics, diet and the environment have been identified as possible culprits

last has been organic and GFCF," he says. "We have clearly contributed to his life. Ethan can't have food that isn't prepared at home, no microwave food, no party food and certainly no fast food. When we travel, we bring his food with us. Miriam is a copier of Healthy Options stores where the best Ethan's GFCF meals and pastas. This is by far the most difficult thing that we've stuck with it because we know it helps."

## Whole-body disorder

Last September, John and Miriam attended the Second Asian Autism Conference in Hong Kong. They learned that autism is not so much a brain disorder, but rather a whole-body disorder, with the brain grossly affected. Autistic children suffer from other painful gastrointestinal issues that often limit progress.

"Since the child cannot express pain in a way his parents can understand, he often acts out aggressively," he explains. A strict GFCF diet becomes important. Many autistic children have high levels of heavy metals like mercury and lead in their blood. They cannot detoxify in the same way that most people do, so they suffer from metal poisoning.

For the parents and two families who cope with autism, today Ethan is a happy eight-year-old. "He is mature, yes, but lacking that's the way we like it," he says. "He wouldn't be one if he weren't the autistic. We are very proud of him, we proud of him as we are of his big brother, Yoh."

## Coping with autism

AUTISM IS A COMMON DISORDER that can disrupt normal development usually diagnosed when a child is 2-3 years old, serious but no known definite cause. Though genetics, diet and the environment have been identified as possible culprits.

John and Miriam say that the following tips for parents of autistic kids:

1. Always be guided by a competent physician who is experienced in working with autistic children. Therapies should be experienced and verified. The field of autism treatment is large, there are many unverified or worse, inappropriate practitioners who are in a rush to be the money.

2. For your child on a GFCF diet. This is difficult, but it is the single most important thing you can do from a nutritional standpoint. If your child can't do without food or pasta, then at the very least keep him off dairy.

3. For your child on ABA along with the GFCF diet. There are other alternative therapies, but we have found ABA to be the only therapy that has been effective.

4. Don't succumb to the pressure of peers or to leave to put your child in school. Put your child in school only when he is prepared ready by his therapists and physicians. Putting your child in school too early wastes money, puts unnecessary stress, and since the school may not be able to handle autistic children, he will be asked to leave anyway.

5. Educate yourself. Attend seminars and workshops to increase your knowledge and network with other parents. The Internet is a treasure trove of knowledge about autism. Do your research.

Most of all, John and Miriam say: "Accept your child's condition with grace. He may be autistic but he is your most precious gift from God."

For AAP programs, go to [www.aap-philippines.com](http://www.aap-philippines.com) or email [info@aap-philippines.com](mailto:info@aap-philippines.com) or contact the hotline at 02-2841111.

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**NEW PAPER DRIVE**

**INQUIRER**













## A woman with dark hair, wearing a white short-sleeved top, is seated at a table. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. On the table in front of her are several playing cards, including a red one and a purple one. A glass of wine is also visible on the table to her left. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be an indoor setting with other people.

They are also holding an exhibit of dream-inspired paintings and holding a public session on the making of these paintings (DWIT, 10/01/2001).







# Sunday LIFE STYLE Travel

## Northwestern France in full flower

Normandy, particularly the towns of Deauville, Honfleur and Lisieux, offers a rich feast of scenic, historic delights



HONFLEUR: Full round Church of St. Catherine, image for the hour and its historic gardens made it famous

Text and photos by Alex Y. Vergara

**WE MESSED** GEORGE Clooney, Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie by a few days, but Therese Martin of Lisieux gladly "stayed" behind to welcome us.

Therese Martin, of course, is better known as the Catholic devotee who wrote *The Child Jesus*. What do a worldly screen like Jolie and a well-loved patron of beauty like St. Therese have in common?

For a brief moment, to be inspired, these two iconic women were among the many attractions that drew beach and foreigner alike to Normandy—particularly to the towns of Deauville, Honfleur and Lisieux—a scenic region in northwestern France (approximately two hours away from Paris by car), which is also famous for a number of history-defining wars and battles, including the famous "Norman" War (1564-1633) and, of course, the Battle of Normandy (1944).

Both historical events have been immortalized in countless books and films over the decades. Interestingly, France's long-standing rivalry with England (as promoters of "Normandy" and other territories during the 14th to the 15th centuries produced an earlier form of tourism, literary and history for the Catholic Church as well as for the French nation. St. Joan of Arc.

Of more recent vintage, Deauville's long, "Norman" (French) beach, perhaps best provided with a modern, if grey, atmosphere, at the Battle of Normandy which unfolded during the dying days of World War II as the Al-



HOTEL: Interestingly, one of the most charming hotels that cater to tourists in Deauville and other neighboring towns such as Honfleur, Lisieux and Honfleur.

lies, led by the American, started liberating the rest of occupied France from the Germans, with Normandy as the largest and most famous landing point.

The WWII battle, Normandy offers regular guided tours to the very town of Bayeux, reportedly a perfect place to explore the landing beaches as well as the Utah Beach Memorial. The area around Bayeux also features a number of museums, museums, bunkers and extensive memorials along the Battle of Normandy.

Thanks to popular images as well as historical accounts, you can imagine what (including myself) actually occurred. Normandy with walking tours that along stretches of sandy beach with rocky formations that served as makeshift accommodations for the Germans. Also, each historical image can

just be a fraction of the entire range of activities the region has to offer.

Apart from being famous for its golf courses, polo grounds, museums, casinos and luxury hotels, Deauville is dotted by beauty in a glamorous, modern town along the famed "Norman Coast."

### No empty beach

Climate, of course, is no empty beach view many of these charming but high-end establishments cater to visitors of Europe's rich and famous. It also serves to the fact that, just like Cannes, Deauville is an annual film festival and a number of the world's best stars in attendance.

It was during the movie festival that celebrity sightings featured their eyes on Deauville and

NOVEMBER 11, 2007

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Discovery Shares Boreacay welcomes its guests with a foot massage to help them settle into their rooms, which are iPod-ready and Wi-Fi-enabled. With all this, you can chill out in bed all day!

## Paradise on earth, and then some

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Tessa Prieto-Vickler

stationary with my name on it, and—my first—yellow "mama" gown with my name. Jan's attention to detail is impeccable.

As part of the welcome, you get a foot massage to help you settle into your room, which is a really nice touch. With all this, you can still not be too happy!

I was just laughing Jan at a meeting with his fellow GMs from the local Country Hotels of the island, of which Discovery Shares is a member. Some play talk about their welcome drink and Jan brought them that long list I just went through. What a great way to be the Philippines flag!

Halloween is always an extra great celebration for me, since I love costumes. The Discovery Shares staff prepared every little detail inspired by the theme—Halloween!

Each department was given a bunch they had to dress up with—different costumes and creative designs, the latest to be in the latest with it. It was tough to decide on a costume, because the staff all performed as well with blood-splattered costumes and even terrible costumes in complete black.

Watching "Celebrity Hunter" (discovered) was also improved with the presentation. He told me his sister will soon fly to Canada Airport with bigger planes that can hold on their mission. Competition can only be good for me, especially with Tessa Prieto's recent P.I. by promotion.

Both were filled with an assortment of specialty restaurants, meeting local and foreign and doing groups. The Summer Place Bar has a costume contest, which I was asked to judge again. Haha, maybe

organizers don't want the to contribute to these costumes!

Next year, I want to spend this weekend in Discovery Shares again. With the hotel's delicious food, continuous food service in the beach and pool, special fun services for kids and the all-inclusive welcome room, who can risk for anything more? Check me out at [cezar@boreacay.com](mailto:cezar@boreacay.com).

### Excellent Boreacay

Back in the city, I was really into my highlight of the week, the "Best Experience Concert" at the Port.

Once again, MTV Philippines came up with a unique idea to hold with Christmas Aguilera (with the year). The Globe-sponsored concert was packed and the audience was completely entertained.

Boreacay's all-around reasonable flow in using their own private plane and checked in at the Mandala Oriental Hotel. In fact, even first nightingale Marina Bar was filled with Boreacay dancers and had another day before the concert.

I was going to take my local hotel (Dorcas to see Boreacay, but for the time, was recommended by our daughter's friend. The hotel for the hotel, as the song says was in excellent form and not at all night.

To make up for missing Boreacay, Dorcas can just take me shopping at Manila with a friend. The annual History Club of Manila is having a sale every day (at the Hotel Boreacay Cultural Boreacay).

There is a 200-year-old Boreacay with a friend is a great way to shop and see—as the phrase goes to Boreacay's many projects, the medical mission, have the Eye Outreach program and entertainment of the La Boreacay Hotel.

Or, perhaps, we can shop by "Buy in the Port" at Boreacay Hotel, Boreacay Village, Boreacay on Box 17.

There seems to be a lot of things that are a lot of things, yet affordable. Again, it's shopping with a cause, so please support the Boreacay Foundation's project to help the National Museum.

Call Patricia Lison at Boreacay Management of the Philippines at 02-888-1111 or e-mail [info@boreacay.com](mailto:info@boreacay.com).

With so many activities, events, so many projects, I can only hope that there will be more "happily ever after" for so many more people in the weeks ahead.

E-mail the editor at [cezar@boreacay.com](mailto:cezar@boreacay.com).



THE PICTURE Company members Eileen and Vincent Gray



VACATIONING! members Vicky Cleopatra, Bianca Ismael and Nena Lalagay



PRETTY! members Maricela Pili and Jon Gaudin



KAPASITA! members Eileen and G's Rique



CBB! Puerto Rico members Lacey and Gaudin



BOREACAY! group performing on stage

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## Bewitching Beyonce

Frompage 21

Beyoncé's voice resonated a combined sultry and honey-like quality, charged with an energy that emanated from within to her instant, undiscovered, yet instantly like a magic singer to another sensation.

But it was her body-pumping moves that drew wild reaction. She danced like an untamed lioness, and she looked good while pouring on a sugar drink, and that she could dance like it to be done in her "Bewitching".

The emphasis on women's power was not lost throughout the gig. A number of Beyoncé's songs were about survival, independence and self-reliance, and there was a part where one of her dancers, by reaching low they had to end her relationships.

Some 28 songs were performed, although most of them were just snippets. Beyoncé was quite busy changing costumes with little to wondering whether she could really do a strength, as it is not her forte.

But all was forgiven when an acoustic guitar accompanied "Innocence" — in which Beyoncé asked everyone to "Shake down the person who took you for granted" — the perfect soundtrack to allow women power.

She thought this was old news since her first concert "Beyoncé" in 1997. But then again, Beyoncé was awarded as good with a tone and both the Beyoncé's.



TWO MALE DANCERS accompany Beyoncé.



AKON (left) guitar pumping the crowd.



THE GIG's emphasis on women's power was evident.



**HITMAN**  
OPENS NOVEMBER 21



HITMAN (left) movie watched... and looked... the good.

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